



V 空迺カイリ

Monochrome Factor

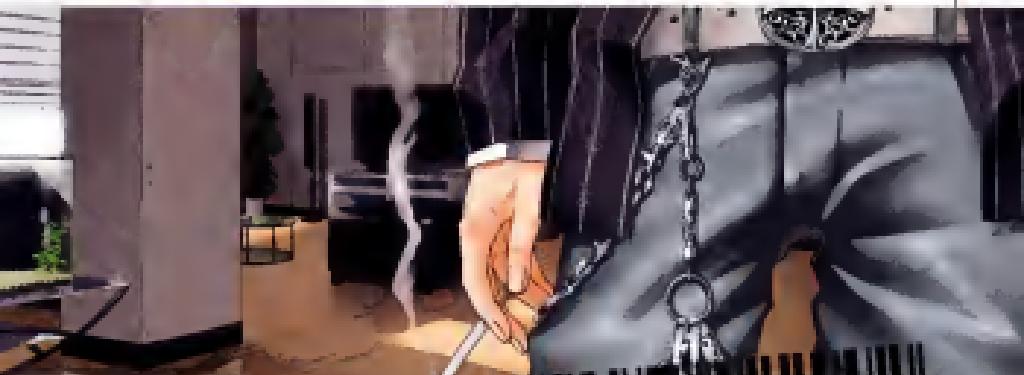
Koh



1 01010101010

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1 01010101010



SINCE I'VE
GOT FOUR
OTHERS TO
TAKE CARE
OF AFTER
THIS...





#020. Shiki

MonoChrome Factor

ISN'T
THAT
KIND OF
SUDDEN?

HUH?

WHA-?

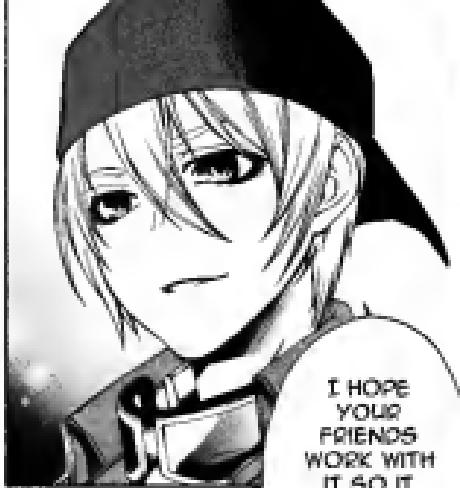
C-
CAN'T WE
TALK ABOUT
THIS?



HUH?
WHAT
ARE YOU
TALKING
ABOUT?

SHE'S
JUST A
NORMAL
PERSON,
LIKE
YOU.
SO SHE
HAS A
SHADOW
ON THIS
SIDE.

DID
YOU GET
DRAWN
IN HERE,
TOO?!



KENGO
?!



Setting con-
fliction and
safety in an
unforgiving
land...

I shall
SURROUND
you with
LIES.

Description
MIRROR!

I MADE A
SHADOW PROTEC-
TOR.

WH...
WHAT
DID YOU
DO?

THEN WHY
DIDN'T
YOU DO
THAT FOR
ME?

IT'S
IMPOSSIBLE
TO MAINTAIN
YOUR EXIS-
TENCE IN THE
WORLD OF
THE OPPOSITE
ELEMENT
WITHOUT ANY
PROTECTION.

WHAT
WAS
THAT
LONG
SIGH
FOR?

.....
.....
.....
.....
SIGH...

BUT IF
YOU CAN
PROTECT
AT LEAST
ONE OF
THEM, YOU
CAN BUY
SOME TIME.
LET'S THINK
OF A WAY
TO SAVE
THEM IN
THE MEAN-
WHILE...

WHY
YOU
...

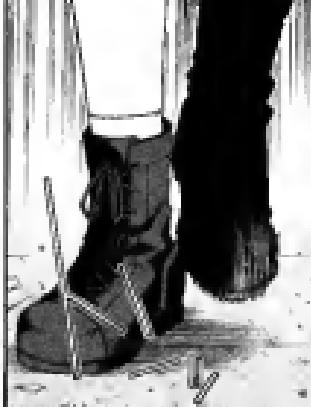
OH,
LET'S
PUT THE
PAST
BEHIND
US.
IT ALL
TURNED
OUT FOR
THE BEST,
RIGHT?

IT'S
POSSIBLE
THAT THE
INFORMATION
ABOUT THIS
PLACE WAS
A TR-

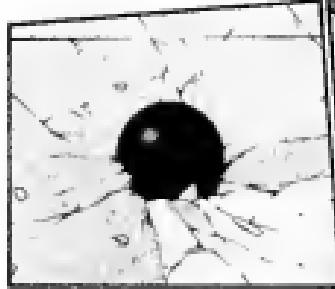
ANY-
WAY, IT'S
CLEAR THAT
KENGO WAS
DRAGGED
INTO THE
OTHER
WORLD BY
SOMEONE.

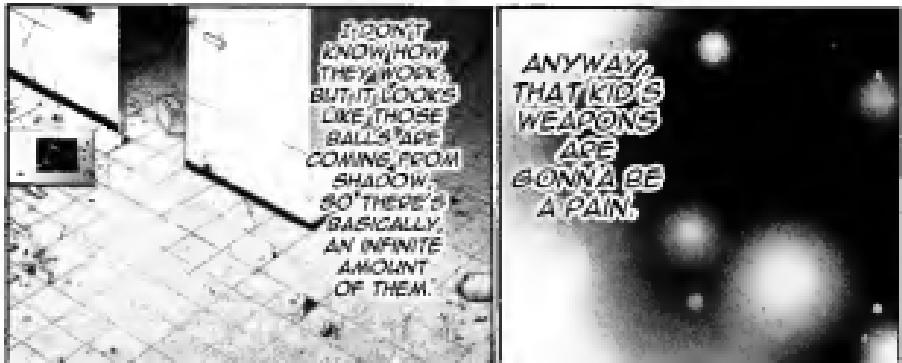


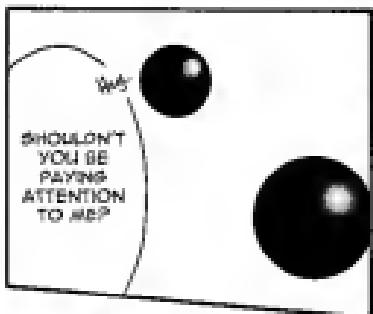








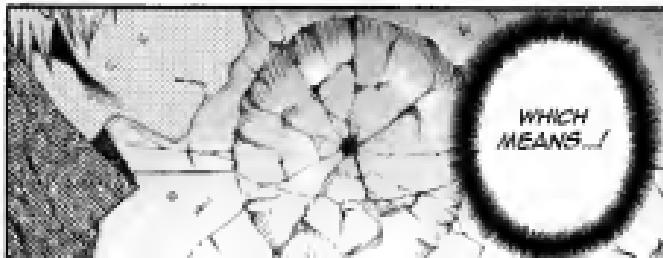


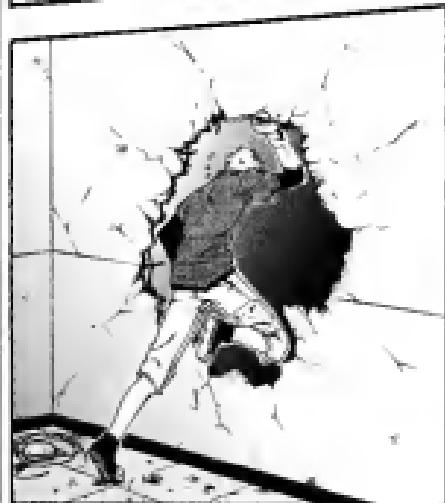


IF IT
WEREN'T
FOR THAT, I
COULD GET
CLOSE...

DAMN...
MY BODY'S
HEAVY, LIKE
I'M MOVING
THROUGH
WATER.









HE'S
RUNNING
LIKE THE
WIMB HE
IS.

FOUND
YOU!

KLUNK

WING





HAH!

TIME
FOR A
SPANKING,
KIDDO!



BUT
KENSON'S
DOPPEL-
GANGER
SEEMS
UNHARMED,
SO THE
SAME
SHOULD
BE TRUE
FOR HIM.



I THINK
I'M HEADING
MORE EXPLOSIONS.
IS EVERYTHING
OKAY?



BUT THAT
DOESN'T
MEAN WE
CAN JUST
SIT HERE!

IT'S
THE OTHER
SIDE, SO I
COULDN'T
TELL YOU





ALL
HE CAN
DO IS
PUNCH
PEOPLE.
HE'S AT
A DISAD-
VANTAGE



MONOCHROME FACTOR 5



I JUST
WANT TO
KICK THE
CRAP OUT
OF HIM FOR
FALLING
FOR SUCH
A STUPID
TRAP.

NOPE,
NOT
REALLY.

HUH?
OH...
HMM.
I SEE.

HUH?
THERE
THERE

YEAH
YOU SURE
DO LOVE
KEN, DON'T
YOU ARI?

BUT...

YOU'LL
JUST GET
LOST ON
THE WAY
THERE.

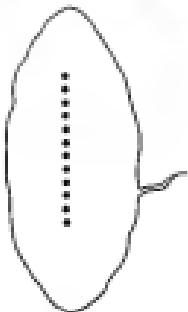
BUT
NO.
YOU CAN'T
CROSS THE
BARRIER
YOUR FIRST
TIME LIKE
THIS.

!!

LEAVE
IT TO
YOUR BIG
BROTHER!

I
TOLD YOU,
RIGHT? I'LL
PROTECT
ALL OF
YOU.



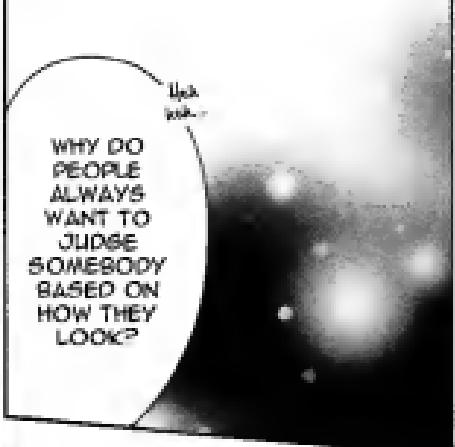




AH HA
HA HA/
MAN,
I CAN'T
BELIEVE
YOU FELL
FOR
THAT!

HOW
GULLIBLE
ARE
YOU?

IS
ANYONE
ACTUALLY
THAT
STUPID?



?!

THIS
IS THE
WORLD OF
SHADOW.

IF YOU
DON'T
HURRY
BACK...

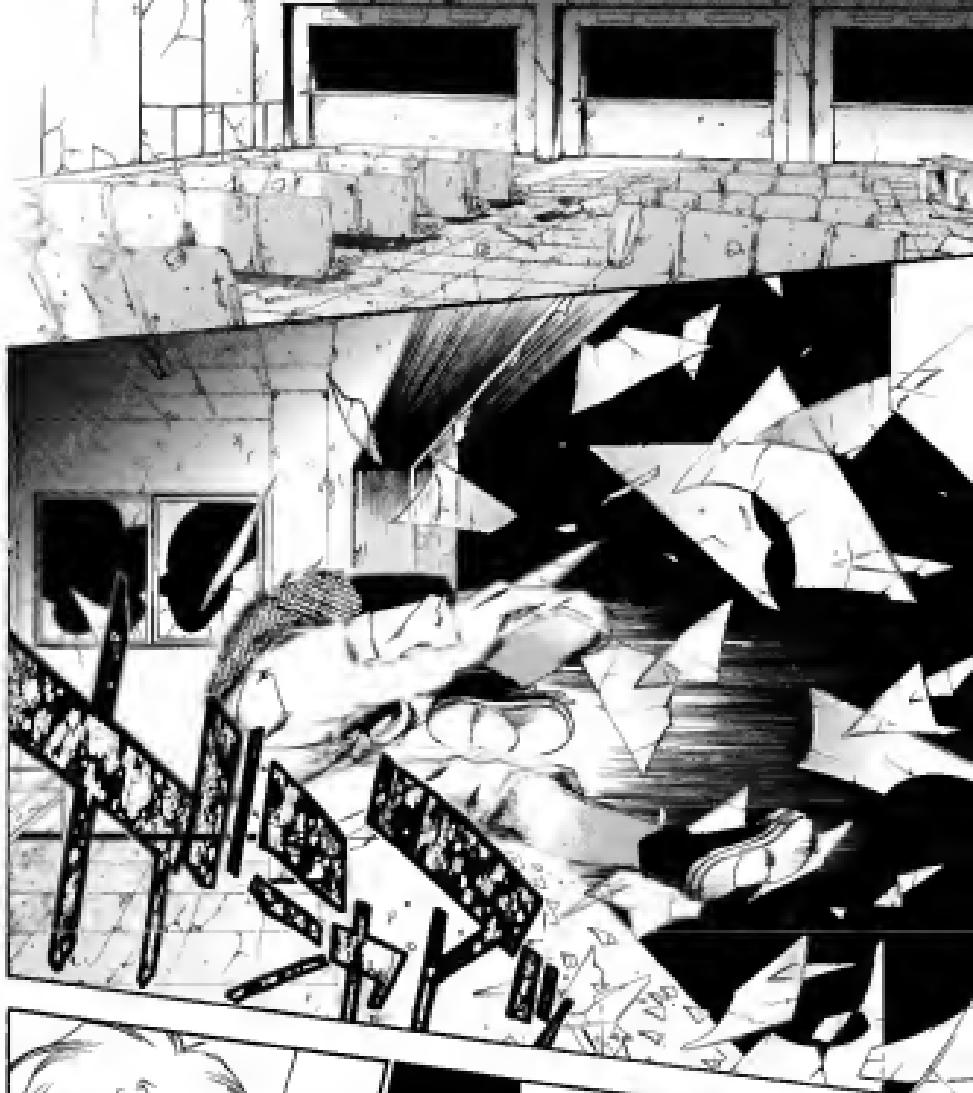
WON'T THE
DARKNESS
SWALLOW
YOU UP?







#021: Buildup



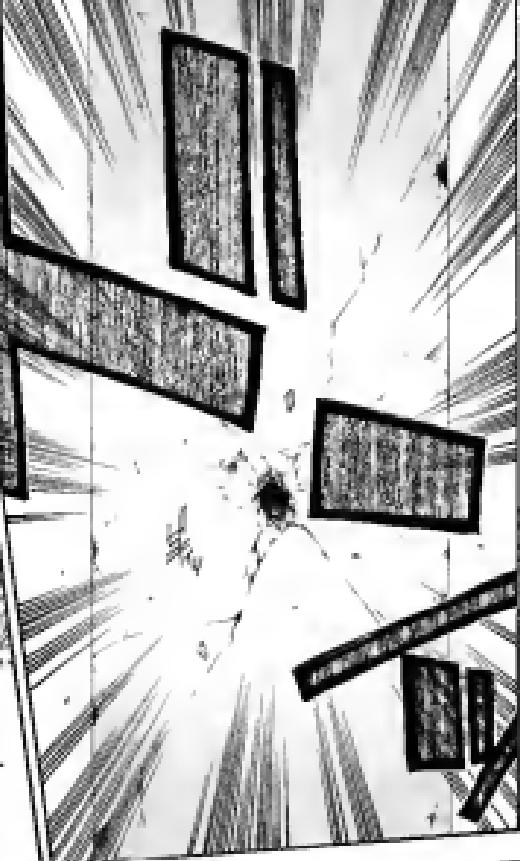


BUT
THAT'S
POINT-
LESS!

YOU'RE
PROBABLY
THINKING
THAT
YOU'RE
HIDING
FROM
ME...

HEY,
MAN





YEAH!
AND
SO...

NATURE?

I CAN
DO THIS,
TOO.

UWAH!



CAN'T
YOU JUST
TELL YOU'RE
THE WEAK-
EST OF ALL
OF THEM?

WHAT?!

...FOR
THE
SAKE
OF THE
USE-
LESS.

I JUST
HATE
HANDICAP-
PING MY
ABILITIES...

YOU
KNOW

it's
you

NO
WAY!

AT
LEAST
SHOW
ME THE
REASON
WHY HE
SAID THAT
ABOUT
YOU!

NNNN

A
HAND
?!



DON'T
START
GIVING
KENZO
IDEAS,
WOULD
YOU?



HUH

IF YOU
DON'T
KNOW THE
REASON,
THEN THAT'S
FINE.







YOUR BIG
BROTHER
WILL SAVE
YOU NOW,
OKAY?

HEY.



YOU'RE
NOT
SERIOUSLY
TALKING LIKE
THAT RIGHT
NOW, ARE
YOU?



HMM...
AREN'T
YOU A
SCARY
LITTLE
KID?



I WAS
GONNA
KILL YOU
ALL ANY-
WAY.

THIS
WASN'T
THE PLAN...
BUT WHAT-
EVER.

**SCREW
YOU!**



BUT I
DON'T
HAVE TIME
TO PLAY
WITH YOU
JUST
NOW.

~~~~~

WIDE  
AREA  
ATTACKS  
ARE FINE,  
BUT...

YOU  
SHOULD  
WORK ON  
MAKING EACH  
INDIVIDUAL  
SHOT A  
LITTLE MORE  
ACCURATE.









HE'LL JUST DIS-  
APPEAR IF  
I LEAVE  
HIM THERE...

SO  
NOW  
I'LL  
FIGHT  
YOU.

IF  
ONLY  
YOU  
COULD'VE  
GOTTEN  
TO HIM  
SOONER!

AH HA  
HA HA  
HA!

WH?

HE  
WON'T  
DISAP-  
PEAR.

HUH?

WHAT  
ARE YOU  
TALKING  
ABOUT?

KEN...

WILL  
NOT  
DISAP-  
PEAR.

# MONOCHROME FACTOR 5



A NORMAL  
HUMAN CAN'T  
EVEN MOVE  
LIKE THAT...





HOW  
CAN A  
NORMAL  
HUMAN TAKE  
THIS MUCH  
DARKNESS  
AND STILL  
MOVE?!

WH-  
WHAT  
IS THIS  
?!



CAN'T  
YOU  
TELL?





I AM...

VERY,  
VERY  
UPSET  
RIGHT  
NOW.



IF YOU  
DON'T  
WANT TO  
DIE....



STAY  
HERE  
AND  
SHUT  
UP.



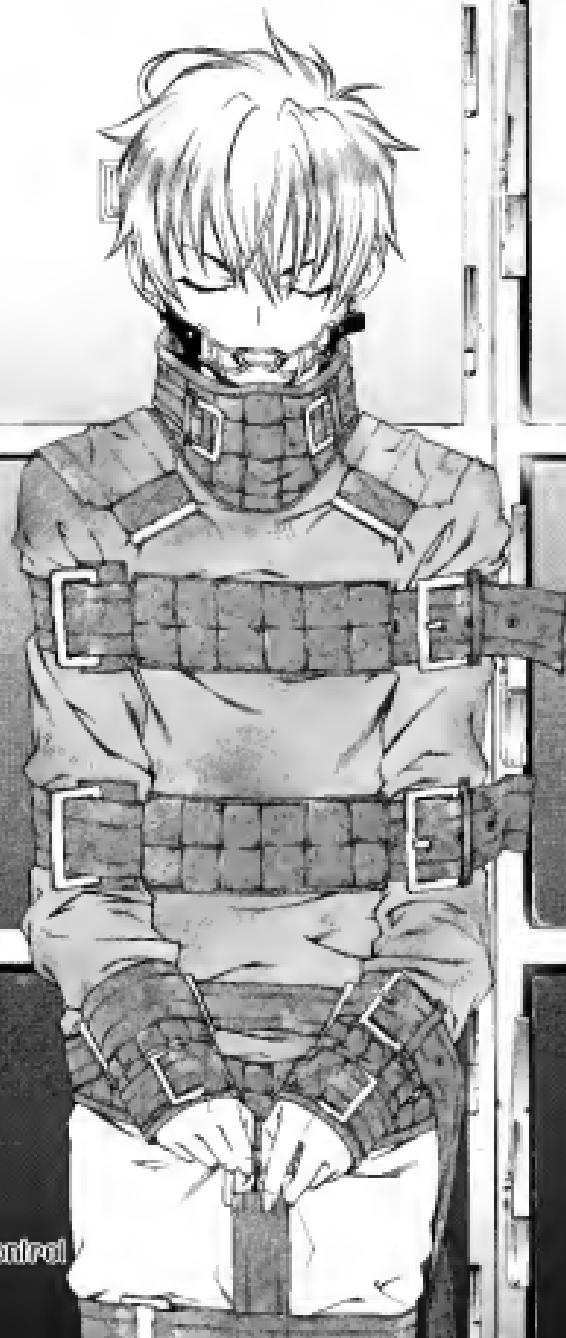
ALL  
RIGHT, KEN,  
LET'S GET  
STARTED!



THIS  
MIGHT  
HURT A  
LITTLE,  
OKAY?

I  
WOULD  
BE THE  
ONE  
TO GET  
HURT.

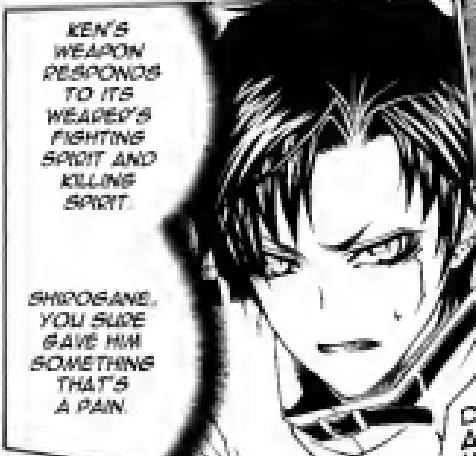
BUT IF  
I HOLD  
BACK



www.outofcontrol









YOU  
ALWAYS  
HAVE  
JUST  
CHARGED  
INTO  
THINGS,  
HAVEN'T  
YOU?



BUT I  
NEED TO  
SUCK OUT  
THE DARK-  
NESS AND  
GET YOU  
BACK TO  
YOUR OWN  
WORLD. IF  
I DON'T,  
PEOPLE WILL  
WORRY.

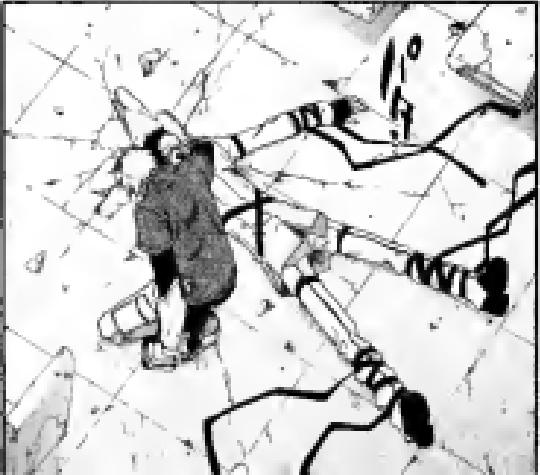


I'D  
LOVE TO  
SHOW  
YOU  
HOW TO  
FIGHT...











WH-WHAT  
THE HELL  
HAPPENED?  
HE WAS SO  
WEAK JUST A  
MINUTE AGO!



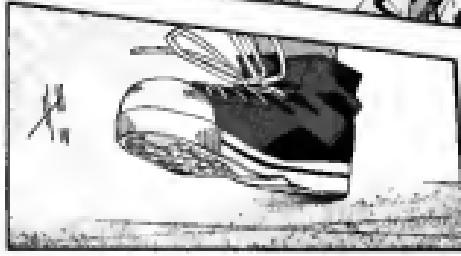




YOU  
GUYS  
WERE  
JUST  
BARELY  
MIDDLE  
SCHOOL  
KIDS.

WHEN  
WE MET...

IT'S  
BEEN A  
WHILE,  
HASN'T IT,  
KEN?



BACK  
THEN...

BUT I  
STOPPED  
YOU,  
RIGHT?

YOU  
WERE  
OUT OF  
CONTROL,  
TOOK.

ANYWAY, YOU'RE  
DIFFERENT FROM  
NORMAL PEOPLE.  
YOU LET THE  
DARKNESS IN  
EASILY, AND YOU  
CAN BUILD UP  
A GOOD DEAL  
OF IT.

AND  
WHEN  
YOU'RE  
ALL FILLED  
UP WITH  
DARKNESS,  
YOU GO  
OUT OF  
CONTROL  
LIKE  
THIS.

WELL, I  
DOUBT YOU  
REMEMBER  
IT AT THE  
MOMENT

AND  
THEN A  
CERTAIN  
KING  
CAME  
ALONG  
AND  
REMOVED  
THEM.  
WHAT A  
PAIN.

! THAT  
WAS ONE  
OF THE  
REASONS  
I PUT ALL  
THOSE  
SEALS ON  
YOU...

WHETHER  
YOU GO OUT  
OF CONTROL  
OR NOT, BUILD-  
ING UP THAT  
DARKNESS IN  
YOUR BODY  
PUTS A LOT  
OF STRESS  
ON IT.

BUT  
COMPLAINING  
ABOUT HIM  
WON'T HELP  
RIGHT NOW.

HOW  
ABOUT  
WE END  
THIS...

AND  
GO  
HOME,  
KEN?









UH...







I CAN'T  
JUST RUN  
AWAY—  
THAT  
WOULD BE  
LAME!



I SAID  
I DIDN'T  
HAVE TIME  
TO PLAY  
WITH YOU.

HMM...  
DID YOU  
MAYBE  
NOT  
HEAR  
ME?

SHUT  
UP!  
SHUT  
UP!



OH,  
FINE.



WAIT.

THAT IS  
ENOUGH.

WE'RE  
LEAVING,  
SHIKI.

LET'S  
GO.

WELL,  
WOULD  
YOU  
LOOK AT  
THAT.





HEY,  
SAWAKI.

IS  
HE

WHY  
WOULD  
HOMURASI  
CANCEL HIS  
ORDER?

TELL  
ME.



#025: Memories



BUT IT'S FINE. I'VE PRETTY MUCH FIGURED IT OUT.



SO TRUE!

YOU'RE AS BIG A WIMP AS EVER.

THOUGHT THAT WOULD BE YOUR ANSWER.

I'VE NEVER REALLY WANTED YOU TO LIKE ME.



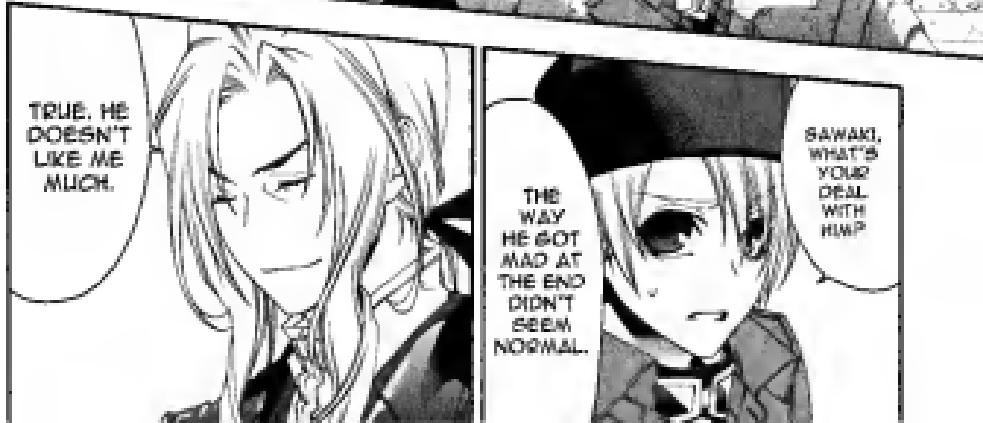
I HAVE ALWAYS

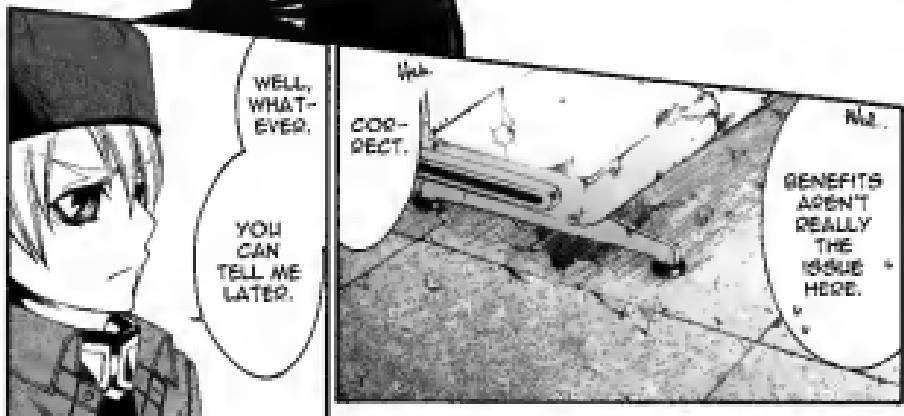
HATED THAT ABOUT YOU













YES, I  
PROMISE  
I WILL.



NOW...



LET'S GET  
BACK TO  
WHERE WE  
BELONG.

IS  
HOMU-  
RABI  
SONNA  
KILL  
ME?



HEY,  
SAWAKI  
...



LIKE  
HE DID  
NANAYA?

IT  
WILL BE  
FINE.

NOW  
LET'S  
GO.



...60...

...NSO...

47° 47°

KENGO!

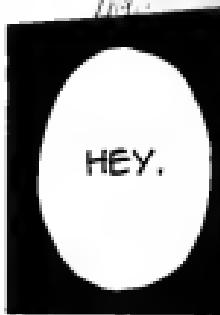


HUH?  
I'M  
BACK?

Pain!  
YOU'RE  
FINALLY  
AWAKE.

Oh...









AYAI

YOU'RE  
JUST SUCH  
A LIAR THAT  
I COULDN'T  
HELP  
MYSELF...

This is great! I had no idea  
we were so much fun to tease.

OH,  
SORRY!

SERIOUS-  
LY, SHUT  
UP!



YOU  
SHOULD  
JUST BE  
MORE  
HONEST,  
AKIRA-  
KUN.

BUT  
WHY  
ME?!



Giyuu!  
Shut up and die!

I'LL  
KILL  
YOU!



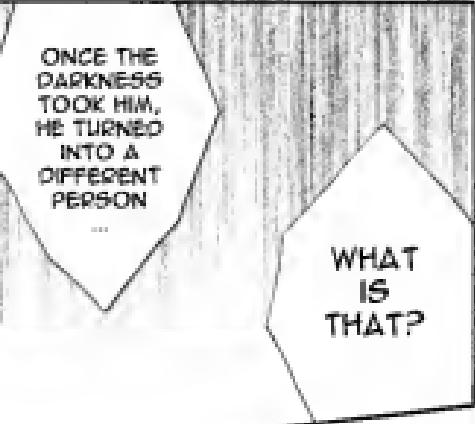
ABOUT  
KENGO  
...?





2 4 3 ...





TO  
TELL THE  
TRUTH,  
KEN IS A  
FACTOR  
HOLDER.

YES.  
A DARK-  
NESS  
FACTOR.

FACTORY?  
YOU  
MEAN...

THAT'S  
BECAUSE  
I PUT A  
BUNCH  
OF SEALS  
ON HIM.

THAT CAN'T  
BE...

WHEN I  
LOOKED  
AT HIM,  
I DIDN'T  
SEE ANY  
FACTOR  
AT ALL!

YES.

ACTUALLY,  
THERE  
ARE A  
SURPRISING  
NUMBER  
OF PEOPLE  
LIKE THAT.

BUT THE  
FACTOR ISN'T THE  
ISSUE  
HERE.

YOU CAN  
IDENTIFY  
THEM BY  
ALL THE  
"SUPER-  
NATURAL  
EVENTS"  
THAT OCCUR  
AROUND  
THEM.

THE  
PROBLEM  
IS THAT HIS  
SPECIAL  
NATURE  
DRAWS  
THE DARK-  
NESS.

SPECIAL  
NATURE?

I SEE!  
THAT'S WHY  
THERE ARE AN  
UNNATURAL  
NUMBER OF  
RIFTS IN THIS  
TOWN.

NOW  
YOU'VE  
GOT IT.

HIS  
POWER IS  
EXTREMELY  
STRONG.

IF HE  
HAS A  
DARKNESS  
FACTOR,  
THEN THAT  
EXPLAINS WHY  
HE DOESN'T  
CEASE TO  
EXIST EVEN  
AFTER  
BEING ABSORBED.

BUT  
REMAINING  
IN THAT  
STATE WITH-  
OUT TRANS-  
FORMING  
IS NOT A  
GOOD IDEA.

BUT  
THAT  
MAKES  
HIM VERY  
DANGEROUS.





HMM...  
SINCE HIS  
CONSCIOUS  
MIND WOULD  
CEASE TO EXIST,  
YOU COULD THINK  
OF HIM AS BEING  
LIKE AN OUTS-  
OF-CONTROL  
KOKUCHI.

IT'S  
POSSIBLE  
THAT HIS  
MIND  
WOULD  
BE ASSIMI-  
LATED BY  
THE DARK-  
NESS.

"HIS MIND  
WOULD BE  
ASSIMILAT-  
ED?" WHAT  
DOES THAT  
MEAN?

### KENGO KOKUCHI



WHAT  
?!

THAT  
ASIDE, YOU  
KNOW ALL  
ABOUT THIS,  
AND YOU'VE  
JUST FOR-  
GOTTEN.



WHY  
DOES  
THAT NOT  
SEEM VERY  
THREATEN-  
ING?

Given  
Rukawa's  
temperament,  
I don't expect  
such a thing.



WHAT  
WAS IT  
THAT  
REALLY  
HAP-  
PENED  
...?



THAT'S  
RIGHT.  
TWO  
YEARS  
AGO...



WHEN  
I FIRST  
MET YOU  
TWO...







#024: Past



ONE  
I DON'T  
THINK YOU  
CAN GET  
INTO.

MAN,  
ENTRY  
EXAMS  
ARE SUCH  
A PAIN.

WHAT?  
WHAT  
DOES  
THAT  
MEAN?

WHICH  
SCHOOL  
ARE YOU  
GOING TO,  
AKIRA?

WHAT?  
YOU'RE  
GOING TO  
KIRHA?

JUST  
WHAT I  
SAID.

YOU MUST  
BE JUST  
BARELY  
ABOVE THE  
CUTOFF.

YOU'RE  
NOT SMART  
ENOUGH TO  
GET INTO  
KIRHA.

THAT  
HAS  
NOTHING  
TO DO  
WITH  
IT!

HOT?!  
WHA-?  
BECAUSE  
I'M SO  
HOT.

AND YOU  
SKIP SCHOOL  
A LOT. HOW IS  
IT YOU ALWAYS  
GET ONE OF  
THE TOP FIVE  
BEST TEST  
SCORES IN THE  
SCHOOL?

HEY,  
WHY DO  
YOU LOOK  
SO VERY  
ANNOY-  
ED?

UGH.  
WHY?

THAT  
REALLY  
HURTS!

HEY,  
BOYS.

'CAUSE  
I DON'T  
WANT TO  
GO TO  
HIGH  
SCHOOL  
WITH  
YOU.

MAYBE  
I'LL TAKE  
THE EXAMS  
FOR KIRIHA,  
TOO.

HUH?  
UH, WELL  
WE'RE  
...

ARE YOU  
IN MIDDLE  
SCHOOL?

YOU  
TWO.



# MONOCHROME FACTOR 5



HEY!

WAIT,  
YOU  
BRATS!

NO,  
THEY'RE  
NOT  
HERE.

MAYBE  
THEY'RE  
OVER  
THERE?

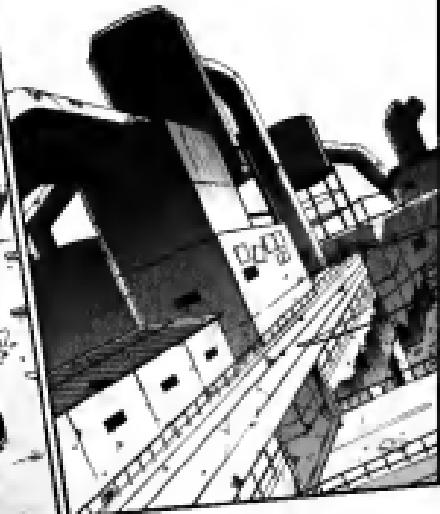
WELL?  
DO YOU  
SEE  
THEM?

YEAH,  
FOR  
NOW.

THEY  
GONE?









HEY,  
WHAT'S  
GOING  
ON?  
NOW'S  
NOT THE  
TIME...

I  
DON'T  
UNDER-  
STAND  
...

IT  
HURTS  
TO JUST  
BREATHE!



HUH?







HE'S  
USUALLY SUCH  
A USELESS  
DUMBBASS....



I'VE  
NEVER  
SEEN  
KENBO  
WITH A  
LOOK LIKE  
THAT  
ON HIS  
FACE!





OH  
MY.

IT  
FELT LIKE  
SOMETHING  
WAS GOING  
TO HAPPEN  
TODAY. I  
GUESS THIS  
WAS IT!



NO  
WAY

RYU  
...?

!!









I JUST  
REALIZED  
THIS. YOUR  
ATTACK  
PATTERN  
IS VERY  
SIMPLE.



SORRY,  
BUT YOU  
WON'T BE  
ABLE TO HIT  
ME LIKE  
THAT.

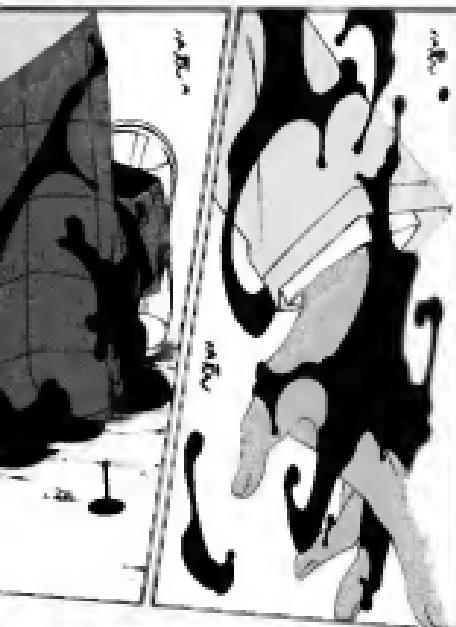


UH...  
SUS...



YOU  
NEED TO  
LEARN TO  
MIX IT UP A  
LITTLE.







HMM...

UNLESS I  
TAKE THIS  
SERIOUS-  
LY...

GRRRR

I MAY  
BE THE  
ONE IN  
DANGER.

YEAH.





#025 Beast



HMM...  
WHAT'S THE  
BEST WAY  
TO HANDLE  
THIS?

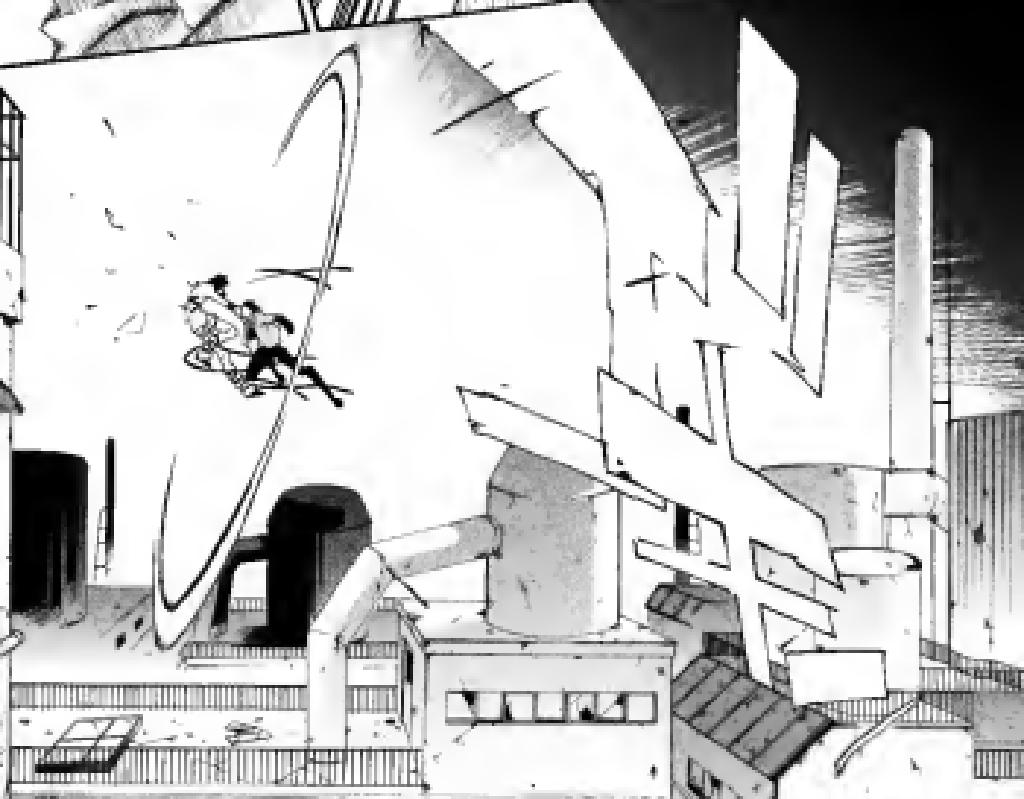
HE'S TOO  
FAST TO  
GRAB, AND  
I DON'T  
WANT TO  
ATTACK HIM  
AND HURT  
HIM...

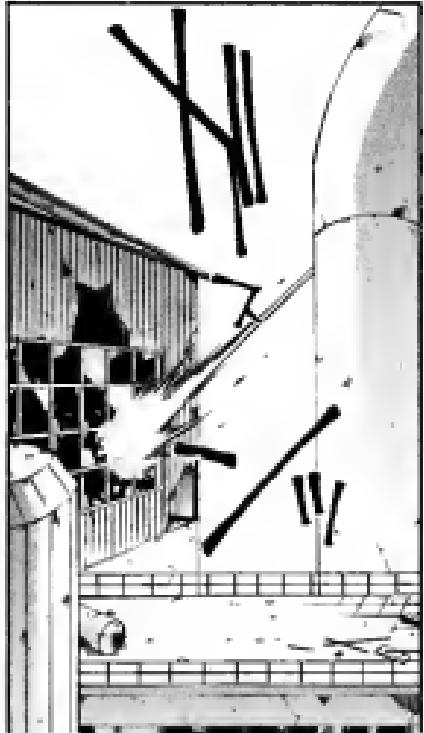
BUT  
I'M NOT  
STRONG  
ENOUGH TO  
DECISIVELY  
FIGHT  
HIM WHILE  
HOLDING  
BACK.

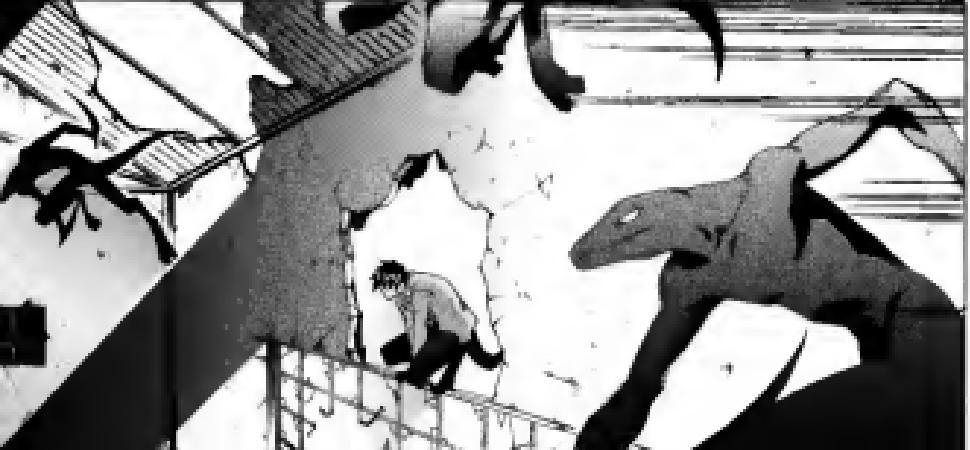
IF I  
WAS AS  
STRONG  
AS I'M  
SUP-  
POSED  
TO BE,  
THIS  
WOULD  
BE NOTH-  
ING!

DAMN  
IT!











# MONOCHROME FACTOR 5









I DON'T  
KNOW IF  
HE'S DRAW-  
ING THEM  
HERE OR  
WHAT? BUT  
THERE ARE  
A LOT OF  
THEM,  
TODAY.



HISS!

I'D LIKE  
TO TAKE  
THEM ALL  
DOWN AT  
ONCE,  
BUT...







I GUESS  
I DON'T  
HAVE A  
CHOICE.



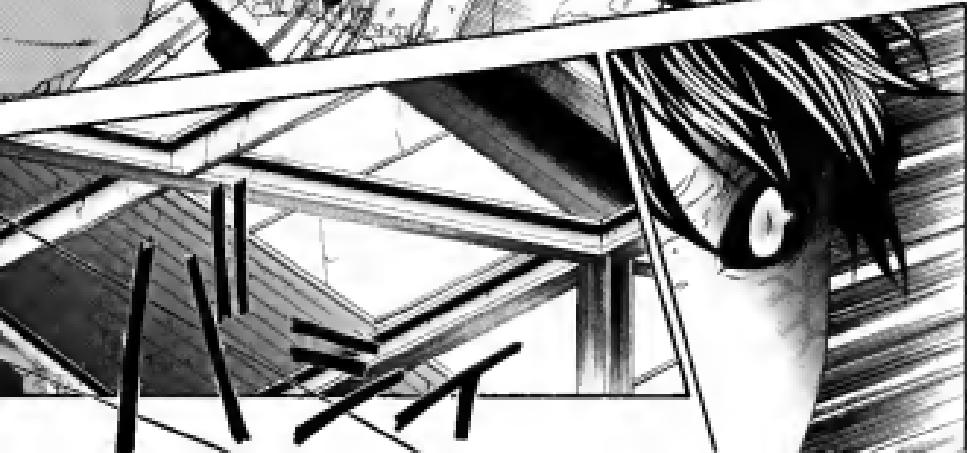
BUT  
I CAN'T  
HOLD  
BACK  
IN THIS  
SITUATION.

I DON'T  
HAVE A  
MASTER  
RIGHT  
NOW,  
YOU  
SEE.

AND IF  
I USE UP  
ALL MY  
STORED  
POWER,  
I'LL HAVE  
A PROB-  
LEM.

YOU GO  
BACK TO  
NORMAL,  
OR I DIS-  
APPEAR.  
♥

LET'S  
SEE  
WHAT  
HAPPENS  
FIRST...











THE  
BOY IS TOO  
POWERFUL  
FOR YOU  
TO DEAL  
WITH RIGHT  
NOW.



## TALK, YO



Volume 6 is out! It's me, Kaito. (Strange greeting.) I was told that it would be beautiful if I could get a volume out just before the anime started airing in Japan, and damned if I didn't pull it off! I can't wait for the anime. (Heh!)

Oh yeah. Actually, I totally forgot to mention this in volume 4, but that story Kengo told in volume 1 chapter 4? That really happened. (Heh!) The first one—about falling into the sea—was my little brother, Kengo was wearing trunks, but my brother was going full mombo. (Ha ha ha ha!) That was great. I still have the video, and it's hysterical. The second incident was when I was in first grade, and it was my sister who hit her butt. I hit my head on the side glass. There was some bleeding, but it was still hilarious. And the last one—about falling into a rice field—that was none other than me. Since we'd come by car, I wanted to cry when they threw me in the cardboard box so I wouldn't mess up the interior. Actually, I did cry. (Heh!) How old was I then? Seven or eight, I think... (Useless information.) That's all! Hope you enjoyed this look behind the scenes!

Praying I can see you in volume 6...

Separation → Sky...

## THANKS

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